1901

The Commission met at the State House Jan 17 1901—

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green Mr Towne Miss Schier.

A letter from Miss Simpkins was read regretting she was not well enough to be present. A letter from Judge Deering showed that the free library at Nantucket was most successful.

The application of Rochester was referred to Miss Simpkins.

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Ashby r

Truro—

Lists of books desired had been received from Orleans & Chesterfield

Towns still without libraries were discussed.

The annual report was read & adopted &
the chairman was authorized to append
the names of the members of the Commission
thereto - and to add any statistic he thought
necessary.

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Sec'y

The Commission met Feb 21 at

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair.

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Bourne	Miss Sohier.

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Orleans.	Hampden
Berlin	Chesterfield

Applications were received from.
Chilmark - and referred to Miss Simpkins
Shutesbury " " Mr Tillinghast.
A list of books desired had been received from Burlington.

It was reported that Nantucket had appropriated $600 for the library —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Sec'y

The Commission met March 21st 1901

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair -

Mr Green. Mr Bourne Miss Sohier.

A letter to Miss Simpkins from Gay Head was read stating that the town had accepted the act - & had elected trustees. The library would be placed in the school house -

Miss Simpkins also sent a letter from Miss Forbes as to Naushon - She reported that she had written to Chilmark & Rochester

Applications were approved from

Mashpee. Cotrain -

Hancock was referred to the Chairman

It was voted that the Commission would endeavor to insert in its next report statistics concerning libraries in tabular form & would issue a circular asking information.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec'y

The Commission met April 18th 1901 –

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair
Mr Nourse Miss Scheer.

It was reported that New Marlborough had accepted the act & hopes to arrange to supply 5 villages with books –

Books had been ordered for Colrain. A letter to Miss Simpkins from Rochester was read. Efforts would be made for branches but one village was partly in Wareham – Miss Simpkins will consult Mrs Weld as to the possibility of aid from Wareham –

A letter from Chilmark was read showing that branches were being attempted –

A circular to Superintendents of Schools was read & approved.

Books had been purchased for the trustees of Somerset.

Mashpee had been asked to send list.

The applications of the following towns were approved.

Huntingdon - Wendall

Charlemont Windsor -

The following applications were referred to the chairman with full powers -

Limstable Greenarch Middlefield

A letter from Russell was read & many towns were informally discussed.

Adjourned

E. P. Schurr

Sec'y.

The Commission met May 23rd 1900 —

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair.

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Nourse	Miss Sohier —

The following applications were approved.

Chelmark.	New Braintree
Rochester	Rowe —
Greenwich.	Health
Dunstable	Plainfield
Otis.	Brimfield
Middlefield	Warwick
Leverett	Gosnold.

The following applications were referred with full powers —

Norfolk	to.	Mr Nourse —
Tyngstow'	"	" "
Bolton	"	" "
Russell	"	Mr Tillinghast

A list had been received from Huntingdon.
New Marlboro had been asked to send a list

Adjourned E. P. Sohier Sec'y

1901

The Commission met June 20 1901

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Green Mr Nourse —

The chairman reported that lists of books desired had been received from

Bolton Chilmark Greenwich Hancock

Rochester Wendall x all tis — x books ordered.

Lists have been sent to

Plainfield New Braintree Rowe.

Norfolk Heath

Books have been sent to

Huntingdon Windsor

Applications were received & approved from

Leverett x Mendon —

with the recommendation that in Leverett further privileges should be offered to teachers x that boxes of books should be sent at convenient periods to the outlying schools in Mendon —

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse

Secretary pro tem.

The Commission met July 18 1901

Present

Mr Tellinghast Mr Green. Mr Nourse.

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Greenwich — Rochester
Hancock — Wendall
Chilmark. — Bolton
New Marlboro'

Books had been ordered for -

Norfolk — Rowe
Charlemont — Otis -

Lists have been sent to a number of towns & circulars furnished to many others -

The propriety of selecting some library manual for distribution among small libraries was discussed and upon examination of Dana's Library Primer & Plummer's Hints to Small Libraries the latter was considered appropriate for the use of the commission

The subject was referred to the chairman with full power

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse
Secretary pro tem.

1901

The regular meeting of the Commission was held at the State House August 15

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Nourse Mr Green.

The chairman reported that books had been sent to the following towns

Charlemont	Plainfield
Middlefield	Otis
Norfolk	Rowe —
Warwick	

Specially purchased books had been sent to Hampden.

Tyngsborough had requested that the sending of books from the state should be delayed as there is hope of a new library building for which a lady has offered $1000 conditional upon the raising of $5000 by the town.

Lists have been received from

Brimfield Heath.

After a letter had been read from Sandisfield explaining the situation in

that town the following applications were approved —

Sandisfield — East Long meadow.
Carlisle — Dana —

The application of West Stockbridge was considered and there being doubt as to the efforts to make the library useful to the schools and as to other matters the application was laid upon the table for further information —

The chairman reported that fifty copies of Plummers Hints to Small Libraries had been purchased.

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse
Secretary pro Tem.

The Commission met Sept. 26 1901

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Green Mr Nourse

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Dunstable Leverett

Books had been ordered for the following towns

Brimfield Dana

Carlisle Heath

New Braintree Mendon

Gay Head —

An application from Berkley was read but the circulation seeming unsatisfactory it was passed for further consideration.

The chairman stated that 27 libraries have received books under the provisions of the new law.

The circular addressed to School Superintendents was discussed, its form agreed upon & it was voted to print & distribute it

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse
Sec pro tem.

The Commission met Thursday Oct 24 1901

Present Mr Tilling hast in the chair –

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Nourse	Mrs Sohier

The circular letter to School Superintendents was read & each member of the board undertook to write to five Superintendents

1907

The Commission met Nov 21st 1901

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Nourse	Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Gay Head – (original)	Tyngsboro'
East Longmeadow.	Granby –

Lists had been sent to

Monterey	Pelham
Tyringham.	Royalston
Oakham.	Sunderland –

Mr Nourse stated that he had received a letter from Pelham which he considered satisfactory & the following applications were then approved

Pelham	Tolland –
Tedvrida	

The applications of Goshen and Granville were referred to Mr Nourse.

A letter was read by Miss Simpkins from Superintendent of Schools in Barnstable Mr Kingman - No other replies had been received -

The possibility of establishing free libraries in Lakeville & Norwell were discussed at length and both towns were referred to the chairman and Miss Simpkins

A proposal from the Congressional library to furnish printed cards to the libraries of the State was considered and the whole subject was referred to the chairman -

The needs of the village of Assonet were discussed

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary.

1902.

The Commission met Dec 19 1902.

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Nourse	Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Tyringham. Sandisfield

Lists had been sent to

Erving	Richmond
Florida	Montgomery
Southwick	New Ashford.

Mr Nourse reported that he had received a letter from Granville but was still awaiting more definite information.

Mr Nourse also reported that Goshen seemed to be doing all that was necessary.

The following applications were approved

Goshen Leyden.

The application of Savoy was referred to the chairman

Miss Simpkins reported that the library in Orset would probably be made free to citizens and a fee charged to summer residents —

The situation in the two towns without libraries was discussed:

Miss Simpkins read a letter from Lakeville

Mr Tillinghast reported that the town clerk in Norwell would do his utmost but believes that no assistance can be hoped from the Fanies library —

It was voted to mail the circular letter to all school Superintendents

The annual report was considered and Mr Nourse stated that it was substantially finished —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

1902.

The Commission met Jan 16 1902

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Nourse	Miss Sohier —

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Monterey	Royalston
Pelham —	Sunderland
Richmond	

Lists had been sent to

Leyden	New Salem
Goshen.	Tolland —
Paxton	

The application of Halifax was approved.

The application of North Reading was referred to the chairman

Mr Nourse reported that Granville had complied with all conditions but was not ready to receive the books.

Miss Simpkins read a letter from Mr Morgan Rotch who will attend the town meeting in Lakeville also one from Mr Perry offering help —

Miss Simpkins read a letter from Rochester stating that a second branch had been established there

Letters from Superintendents were read Mr Green stated he had received six asking Suggestions

The chairman stated than an interesting legal question had arisen in Falmouth where a vote had been passed to divide the dog tax between the two libraries

The legality of the vote had been called in question on the ground that one of the libraries was not a ~~public~~ library in the sense intended by the act.

The annual report was read and approved & the chairman was authorized to append the names of the members of the commission

Adjourned. E. P. Schuer
Sec'y

1902

The Commission met Feb 20 1902

Present

Mr Tilling chairman in the chair

Mr Green — Miss Simpkins

Mr Norris — Miss Sohier —

The chairman reported that books had been sent to the following towns

Erving — New Salem

Florida — Oakham —

New Ashford

Also that books had been ordered for

Leyden — Tolland

Montgomery — Southwick

Paxton

Lists had been sent to

Berkley — Whately

Halifax — West Stockbridge

Rutland

The application of Chesler was referred to the chairman

The application of Wales was discussed & referred to the chairman

Miss Simpkins read a letter from Mashpee enclosing a list of books desired – She also stated that she had received a list of books from Gosnold –

The chairman stated that he had written 14 letters to Nonvell & had seen the town clerk who will see that an article is inserted in the town warrant

The opinion of the attorney general was read as to the appropriation of the dog tax to libraries not owned by the town

Miss Simpkins read a letter from South Yarmouth showing that the circulation had increased four fold since the library was made free –

It was voted to authorize the chairman to purchases for distribution copies of the catalogue of books for School use of the Carnegie Library in Pittsburg.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Sec'y

March 20 1902 –

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green	Miss Schaperi
Mr Nourse	~~Miss Schaeer~~

A letter had been received from Miss Simpkins who was detained by illness –

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Gosnold	Tolland
Leyden	Paxton
Maspkee	Southwick
Montgomery	Whately
West Stockbridge.	

Books had been ordered for

Chester	Halifax
Granville	

Lists had been sent to Wales.

Books had been purchased for the libraries of several towns including

Boxborough	Somerset
Savoy	Hampden –

The chairman ruled that such requests

to purchase books had been received from many towns during the past year -

The following applications were approved

Holland Hawley.

The chairman reported that the Committee appointed at the town meeting at Howell had conferred with the trustees of the James Library and had strong hopes that the James Library would be made free -

A letter from Mr Perry to Miss Simpkins stated that owing to a misunderstanding no article had been inserted in the warrant for the annual town meeting at Lakeville but it was hoped to have the article inserted later at a special meeting.

The chairman stated that the difficulty between the libraries at Falmouth had been amicably settled in consequence of the opinion given by the Attorney General & the money which was voted last year from the dog tax to East Falmouth will be paid

Adjourned E. P. Sohier Sec't

1892

April 18th

The regular monthly meeting was held at the State House.

Present Mr Tillinghast in the chair.

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Nourse	Miss Sohier.

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Chester	Rutland
Granville	Wales_
Halifax	

Lists had been sent to

Hawley	Savoy_
Holland	

The application of Phillipston was approved_ also the application of Burlington for the final supply of books_

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

May 15 1902

The commission met at the State House.

Present Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green	Miss Simpkins
Mr Monroe	Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Berkley	Holland —
Hawley	

A list had been sent to Phillipston

The following applications were approved.

North Reading	Monro
Gay Head	Peru —
Russell	

The application of Plympton was referred to the chairman —

The situation of other towns was discussed —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

June 19 1902

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tilling hast in the chair Mr Monroe

Mr Green Miss Sohier -

The chairman stated that books had been sent to

Phillipston x Burlington (2nd ")

Books had also been ordered for

Peru Plympton -

Lists had been sent to

Gay Head. North Reading

Russell. Monroe

A letter was read from Prescott stating that arrangements had been made for two branches x that books would be placed in each x exchanged from time to time for fresh books from the central library

A letter was read from Richmond asking for the second supply of books in order to include them in a new calalogue The letter also stated that the library must soon be removed from the house of

Rev. J. C. Luce who wished to resign his place as librarian - Some hope was expressed that a library building or room for the library in the central part of the town might be secured

The applications of Prescott & Richmond were then approved.

The question of sending the second installment of books to towns which now request them was discussed & it was voted that the chairman be authorized to send the second supply of books in his discretion to any towns applying

Mr Tillinghast & Mr House were appointed a committee to formulate a plan for the publication of Vital Statistics under the new law.

Adjourned
E. P. Solvier
Secretary.

July 17 1902

The commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair — Mr Nourse

Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to Peru —

Applications were approved from

Lanesborough. Wendall (2nd ")

It was voted That the chairman & Mr Nourse be authorized to act for the Commission in all matters connected with the administration of Chapter 470 of the acts of 1902 relative to the publication of vital ~~Statistics~~ records, and report their action to the Board.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

Aug 1st 1902.

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Nourse Miss Scheer.

The chairman stated that books had been sent to

North Reading

Plympton

Books had been ordered for

Russell -

Lists had been sent to

Lanesborough

Prescott

Mr Nourse stated that the difficulties at Bolton concerning a library building had been settled & the building would probably soon be erected -

The provisions of the Marie law were considered & recent changes therein

The general work of the Commission was discussed

Adjourned

E. P Scheer Sec'y.

September 30 1902

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair Mr Nourse Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Russell - 1st "

Chesterfield (2nd ")

Richmond - (2nd)

Wendall - (2nd)

West Stockbridge (2nd ")

Lists had been sent to

Colrain (2nd)

Windsor (2nd ")

The application of Shulesbury was considered - No branches had been established but one of the trustees delivers books in outlying districts - As the population of the town is only 382 & efforts were evidently made to provide all the inhabitants with books the application was approved -

A circular letter was read asking for information from libraries concerning gifts and other items of interest. It was voted to print the letter and send it out during November —

The annual report was discussed & it was decided to include the Library Laws as usual and to add any references to the laws which concern libraries which are contained in the Revised Statutes under different headings —

The chairman read a list of recent applications for the report of the Commission coming from States in all parts of the Union —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secretary.

Oct 16 1902

The Commission met at the State House.

Present

Mr Tillinghast Chairman, Mr Green. Mr Nourse.

Mr Nourse was chosen Secretary pro. tem. during Miss Sohier's absence in Europe -

The application of Mr Washington for books was approved. It is proposed to put the books into two school rooms - the meetinghouse being too distant from the population for usefulness.

An application from Mrs Dalzell of Egremont indicated that no effort had been made to help an outlying village three miles from the library. The application and letter were referred to Mr Nourse for further correspondence.

It was voted to send out circulars of enquiry to the town librarians on Nov. 1.st

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse

Secretary pro tem.

Nov 20 1902

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mrs Agassiz Mr Green Mr Nourse –

The chairman reported books had been sent to Monroe.

An application was considered and approved from Boylston

Mr Nourse reported that he had written to Mrs Dalzell of Egremont that the town's application must be rejected under the law until some provision should be made for extending better library privileges to schools and outlying villages –

Voted to accept from Miss Katharine P. Loring the proferred gift of 130 copies of the memoir of Miss Anna Ticknor and have them bound for presentation to such public libraries as may be selected

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse

Sec. pro tem

Dec 18 1902

The Commission met at the State House -

Present

Mr Tillinghast chairman, Mr Green Mr Nourse

Applications for books were approved from

Blandford

Gill.

The application of Auburn was considered & laid over.

A letter from Miss Tarbell librarian of Brimfield was read which asked help from the Commission concerning the classification in small libraries - Mr Nourse stated that he had already replied doubting the expediency of complex systems in the management of very small libraries

The report of the Commission for the year 1892 was considered & some of its details agreed upon

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse
Secretary pro tem

January 15 1903

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair Mr Green. Mr Nourse.

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Colrain Truro Windsor

as second instalment

Lists had been sent to Eastham Blandford Boylston. Gill. Shutesbury & Ashby

Books had been purchased for Hampden Hancock & Oakham

An application was approved from New Marlborough—

An application was received from Alford

with a letter from the chairman of trustees In consideration of the unfortunate condition of the town the application was granted although little has been done for the outlying districts

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse

Secretary pro tem.

February 19 1903

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Green Mr Nourse —

The chairman reported that the first instalment of books under the new law had been sent to Bland ford and the second instalment had been sent to Ashby Eastham & Rowe —

Lists for the second instalment had been sent to Mendon.

Books had been purchased for Roxborough by request with the towns money.

The trustees of the Falmouth Library asked advice of the Commission in view of the fact that the selectmen, under advice of the town counsel, had refused to pay a share of the town's library appropriation to the managers of the West Falmouth Library alleging that although a "free public library" it is owned by a private corporation and therefore cannot legally receive aid from the town treasury. In response the chairman

had called the attention of all parties concerned to the opinion of the present Attorney General upon a precisely similar legal point on page 1 of his report for 1892.

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse

Secretary pro. tem.

March 19 1903_

The Commission met at the State House

Present Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green Mr Nourse

The good news has come that Lakeville voted at its Spring town meeting to establish a free public library & elected trustees according to law. The proper certificate has not yet been received from the town clerk_

The chairman reported books sent to Prescott (1st)

Lists of books had been sent to Mt Washington (1st) Florida (2nd)

A communication from the trustees of the Westport Library asking for information as to the best methods of distributing the books of a library in a small town throughout the outlying districts was answered by Mr Nourse.

The letter announcing the facts respecting Lakeville states that a room will be fitted up in the town hall for the library. The funds on hand at the start are the $25

appropriation, a $100 bequest received several years ago & a gift of $25.

The special Committee upon the printing of Vital Statistics reported the following town records approved for printing & all but Malden published

Malden	Peru
Walpole	Hinsdale
Alford	Pelham
Montgomery	Princetown
Westborough	Medfield

Adjourned
Henry S. Nourse
Secretary pro tem

April 16 1903

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Green Mr Nourse –

The chairman reported that the special committee upon the printing of Vital Statistics had approved the records of

Leicester

in manuscript made ready for print

He also reported books sent to

Mt Washington (1st) Florida (2nd)

Carlisle (2nd) Norfolk (2nd)

Books had been ordered for

Gay Head

Books had been purchased for

Somerset

Lists had been sent to

Wales. Russell –

The formal application for books had been received from Lakeville

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse
Sec'y pro tem.

May 2nd 1903.

The commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Green Mr Nourse

The chairman reported books had been sent to Gay Head

Books had been ordered for the new library of Lakeville

A letter was read from the Lakeville trustees asking advice about the election of a special treasurer & the deposit of special funds. Their town treasurer had warned them that their proceedings had been illegal in not recognizing him as their treasurer under provisions of Section 7 of the Revised Laws Chapter 38. The chairman was requested to reply to this communication

The special committee upon the printing of vital statistics reported that the records of Bucket & Co have been printed & approved

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse
Sec't pro tem

June 18 1903.

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Green Mr Towne

The chairman reported $100 in book sent to Lakeville

Books had been ordered for Russell (2nd)

A list has been sent to Ewing.

A long communication from the town of Southampton was read, stating that a gift of a $5000 building has been promised & that the Southampton Library Association proposes to contribute their books to the town library when the building is ready for their reception, & asking if the states bounty will be received. The election of 12 trustees it is found does not conform to the law & the Secretary pro tem was instructed to inform the trustees of this fact & to recommend that a new election be had for their own protection and advantage—

The Special committee upon the printing of Vital Statistics reported the printing & approval of the records of

Southborough

The Malden records long since approved have been accepted by the Secretary of State as printed

Adjourned

Henry S. Nourse
Secretary pro tem.

July 16 1903

The regular monthly meeting was held at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast & Mr Nourse

(Mr Sohier & Mr Green being supposed to be in Europe & Mrs Agassiz absent from the State)

The chairman reported books sent to Russell (2nd)

Several lists of books asked for have been received from towns & are receiving attention

The special committee upon the printing of Vital Statistics reported the acceptance as printed of the records of Sudbury Barre Tyringham.

Adjourned without action upon business requiring a quorum—

Henry S. Nourse
Secretary pro tem

August 20 1903

The Commission met at the State House.

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Nourse Miss Sohier

The chairman books sent to

Mendon. Lakeville

The application of Southampton was approved & referred to the chairman with full powers.

The Special committee reported that the Vital Statistics had been approved as printed of the towns of

Topsfield Lexington

Bedford Millbury

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

September 17 1903

Present

Mr Tellinghast — Mr Towne
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had written to Southampton but had received no reply

A list had been sent to New Salem.

The condition of other towns was discussed

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

October 15th 1903.

The commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Howse

Mr Green — Miss Sohier

A letter had been received from Southampton where they were waiting for a meeting of the trustees —

Berkeley asks for a second instalment of books or a list has been sent

Books have been ordered for

Rochester (2nd) Wales —

Books have been bought with the towns money for Somerset Carver & Lakeville

The form of the annual report was referred to the chairman & Mr Howse

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

November 19 1903

The regular monthly meeting was held at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mrs Agassiz
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The following resolutions upon the loss which the Commission had sustained in the death of Hon Henry S. Nourse were read by the chairman

Henry Stedman Nourse

Born of the fine fibre of native New England parentage; nurtured amid scenes glowing with the romance of history; graduated from Harvard half a century ago with eminent men for his classmates; teacher of the classics in one of the most famous of American preparatory schools; a true soldier on many battle fields, who marched with

Sherman to the Sea; constructive engineer of many important works; pure high-minded legislator for his town in the House and his district in the Senate; faithful historian by nature and instinct, with congenial honors from associates in the great historical societies of the Commonwealth; loving husbandman of the records of his native town and its people. Enriched with experience in these and other paths of private trust and civic honor he came willingly and heartily to the service of this Commission. Appointed one of its original members in 1890, he was twice reappointed, and the closing hours of his life found him active in the work he loved.

The Commission has held more than a hundred and fifty meetings, and though further removed by time and distance than any of his associates, his seat is vacant for the first time today.

his cheerful readiness to devote his time and ability to its interests — notably in the preparation of its historical ninth report — has produced more lasting results than the work of any other member. He had the highest ideal of the public library as the fountain of popular intelligence and the treasure house of local history — Wise, discreet progressive, his nature, thought and his loving interest were modestly, unselfishly and with tireless industry given to the cause of this commission was established to promote. He was not born for himself alone, but to be of service to his fellow man.

Independent and vigorous in the expression of his own opinions, he always had that considerate regard for the opinions of others that endeared him in an unusual degree to all his associates. Tender, genial, helpful, he fulfilled the oriental

idea of a friend — one who renders assistance, who is faithful in prosperity and adversity, who gives judicious advice and shows kindness of feeling —

Those who survive in the after glow of his life are rich in its memories, and in the stimulus of his devoted enthusiasm

Signed C. B. Tillinghast
Samuel Sweet Green
Elizabeth P. Sohier
Mabel Simpkins Agassiz

It was voted that these resolutions be entered upon the records and that a copy signed by the members of the Commission be sent to the family

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

December 16 1903

The commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman stated that the resolutions upon Mr Nourse had been printed in the local paper and that he had received letters from the family and friends expressing their appreciation -

Books had been sent to
Wales (2nd ed) Berkley (2nd)
A list had been sent to Rutland -
Books had been ordered for Southampton under the original law (1890) -

Voted That Mr Corey be placed on the Committee on Vital Records in the place of Mr Nourse

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

January 21 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast (in the chair. Mr Corey
Mr Green Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had received letters stating that the James Library at Norwell had been made free so that the Commission could now state in its report that there was no no town in Massachusetts without a free library —

The chairman reported books sent to Rutland —

The annual report was read and approved and it was voted that the chairman be authorized to append the names of the members of the Commission

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

February 18 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast (in the chair) Mr Corey
Mr Green Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to
Southampton (Law of 1890)
Bolton (2nd " 1900)
Books had been purchased for Boxborough & Hancock with their own money—

The Sub-committee on Vital Statistics reported that it had approved the records of

Holden New Braintree
Gill Great Barrington
Washington

The need of books for the blind & the possibility of supplying them by the Commission was discussed— It was decided to endeavor to obtain information from Worcester & Lynn concerning the use of such books in those libraries

Adjourned E P. Sohier
Secretary

March 17 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair — Mr Covey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The Committee of Vital Statistics reported that it had approved the records of the towns of

Middleborough — Waltham
Middleton — Arlington.
Manchester

The need of books for the blind was discussed. Mr Green found that the use of such books in Worcester was small. The possibility of furnishing books to the libraries in various ways by the the State was considered.

Mr Green stated that Miss Mary Perlie who had recently died had expressed a wish that such of her books as her sisters did not desire to retain should be given to some small library. The list of the books was submitted

x it was stated that the number of volumes was about 300 - After discussion, it was decided to recommend that the books should be given to Lakeville, the youngest town library in the state where it was believed they would be highly appreciated and very useful -

It was voted that the next annual report of the Commission should contain the history and statistics of the libraries established with the aid of the Commission and that Mr Corey be appointed to take charge of the preparation of the report.

A letter was read from Wendell concerning difficulties which had arisen in that town x stating that the librarian Miss Karam a had decided to resign -

The possibility of establishing a library in Washington was discussed - The library in Becket is practically very little used - x some better provision is needed

Adjourned

E R Sohier
Secretary

April 21 1904.

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Schier

The chairman reported books had been sent to Chester

A list had been sent to New Marlborough

Mr Green reported that the books offered to Lakeville had been most gratefully received.

The Committee on Vital Statistics reported that they had approved the records of.

Bubblehead Vol 1 — Upton.

Peterham

Mr Corey stated that Mrs Dr Upham 19 Exeter St had called attention to the needs of the Life Saving Stations of which there are 32 in Massachusetts. The Commission felt that the Government ought to provide such stations with books & expressed surprise that such provision had not been made. It was decided to investigate the condition & needs of these Stations and

Mr Tillinghast agreed to write to Straights mouth for information & Mr Corey to Mr Sparrow Superintendent of the 2nd District U.S Life Saving Service -

The Map prepared for St Louis has been completed & a copy of it on a reduced scale was shown to the commission

Voted That the Commission will order 2000 copies of the reproduction of the map prepared for the St Louis Exposition showing the library buildings in Massachusetts for use in the next report

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

May 19 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey

Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Gay Head 2nd "

Blandford "

A very satisfactory letter was read from Leverett showing that four branches had been established in the little town & that the circulation had doubled.

Miss Sohier reported that She had visited several of the small libraries in Berkshire during the month and that great interest & progress were found in all—

At Tyringham the new stone library is partly built, but is delayed by want of funds—

At Richmond a new and attractive room has been secured for the library and the town is so well pleased that instead of giving $50 a year with occasional reduction to $25, it has voted $150

for two years, with readiness—

Mr Corey read two letters from Capt Sparrow of the Life Saving Service which stated that all stations were supplied with books which were exchanged from time to time & consequently that Mr Corey should correspond with the different stations in the district as to their needs & present supply

Mr Tillinghast had received a letter from Straits mouth which stated that small libraries were supplied by the United States containing about 30 books which were exchanged— & that magazines &c were sent by Societies, but expressing the opinion that if childrens books could be added they would be received with the greatest delight by the children at the lighthouses—

It was decided to try to call attention to this suggestion

Adjourned

E P. Sohier
Secy

June 23rd 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the Chair

Mr Green Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to Leverett —

Letters concerning the Life Saving Stations were read but in the absence of Mr Corey consideration of the subject was postponed.

Mr Green gave an account of his visit to the new library at Bolton which he thought admirably adapted for the use of a town of that size.

Adjourned

E P. Sohier

Secretary

July 14th 1904

The Commission met at the State House
Present Mr Tillinghast in the chair
Mr Greene
Mr Corey –

A report was received from Miss Chandler of her visits to several of the smaller towns in the Western & Northern parts of the State. With one or two exceptions the libraries visited seemed to be in a very satisfactory condition

The work of the Commission was discussed

Adjourned

Aug 18 1904

Mr Dillingham & Mr Corey were the only members of the Commission present owing to Mr Green's absence in Europe & the absence from the State of the other members —

No formal meeting was held —

Sept 22 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair — Mr Covey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to Sandisfield -

Letters were read from Oakham and Monroe.

The general business of the Commission was discussed.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secretary

Oct 13. 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green Mrs Agassiz Miss Sohier.

The chairman read a reply from Oakham concerning the selection of books to be sent by the State

A letter from the editor of the San Francisco Call was read - & very satisfactory appreciation of the work of the Massachusetts Commission was expressed.

Mrs Agassiz reported that she had visited a number of the libraries on the Cape & found great interest was taken in most of the libraries - She intended next spring to make a tour among the Cape towns in an automobile in order to visit all the libraries in that Section.

adjourned E. P. Sohier
Sec'y.

Nov 17 1904

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tilling hast in the Chair

Mr Green Mr Corey Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Monroe r

Sandisfield

Books had been ordered for

Gosnold r

Oakham -

The chairman stated that the Grand Prize had been awarded at the St Louis Exposition to the Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission for the excellence of its work as shown by the Massachusetts exhibit

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

December 15 1904

The Commission met at the State House
Present
Mr Tillinghast in the chair
Mr Green Mr Corey Miss Sohier.

The chairman reported that books had been sent to
Gosnold 2nd "
Hampden "
Oakham "
Orleans "

Several applications were considered and it was voted that books should be sent to
Alford
Egremont
Southampton.

The annual report was discussed and the general work of the Commission

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

1905

The Commission met at the State House January 19th 11 -

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

A letter from Washington was read which showed that in 1896 the town accepted the Library Act & voted to appropriate $15 - but did not elect trustees & apparently the town has taken no further action - As the inhabitants of Washington seem to make little use of the library in Becket it is hoped that the town will this year take the steps necessary to establish a library of its own -

The annual report was read & discussed

Voted That the chairman be authorized to make such additions as are necessary & to append the names of the members of the Commission to the report

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec'y

Feb 17th 1908.

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the Chair Mr Corey
Mr Green Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to Alford - (8100)

Books had been ordered for

Hancock Berlin Egremont
Dunstable

The advisability of subscribing for the A.L.A book lists was discussed & it was voted

That the chairman be authorized to subscribe for such number of the A.L.A booklists as he may find desirable & to send them to each of the free public libraries of Massachusetts -

The question of supplying books to the smaller libraries from one or more central libraries was discussed & attention was called to the offer made by the Commission in 1895 to obtain & lend such special books to the small libraries

E. P. Sohier Sec'y

March 16 1905

The Commission met at the State House.

Present

Mr Tilinghast in the chair — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that in accordance with the vote at the last meeting he had sent copies of the first number of the A. L. A. list to all the libraries - and that he hoped later to be able to arrange that they should be sent directly from the publishers -

Books had been sent to

Berlin 2nd — Hancock 2nd
Dunstable 2nd — Huntingdon - 2nd

and $80 had been expended for Dunstable $60 for Hancock at the request of those towns.

The chairman stated that owing to the death of Mr. Pomeroy a few days before the town meeting he feared no action had been taken in Washington -

The Vital Statistics had been approved of

Palmer — Rutland — Charlton
Clifford — Marblehead Vol 2

E. P. Sohier See'y.

April 20th 1905

The Commission met at the State House—

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier—

The following committee of the Mass Lib. Library Club having asked for a conference with the Commission were also present.

Mr Foss of the Somerville Library
Mr Fletcher " Amherst College
Mr Fleischner " " Boston Public Library
Mr Tripp " " New Bedford Library
Mr Wilson " Clark University—

The members of this committee submitted a great variety of propositions individually but ~~as~~ there appeared to be great difference of opinion as to the desirability or importance of each—

May 18 1905

The Commission met at the State House.

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier.

The chairman reported books had been sent to.
Egremont 1st — New Marlborough 2nd
Middlefield 2nd

Books had been ordered for
Chilmark

The Committee on Vital Statistics reported that the records of the following towns had been approved

Oakham — Bedford
Newton — Medway.

The question of uniform binding of books was discussed & the objection to such uniformity inasmuch as the books were less easily identified & became somewhat less individual —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec'y

June 15th 1905

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to Chilmark.

The chairman gave an account of his recent visit to Granville & also his impressions of the library buildings in Holliston, Milford Hopedale, Mendon & Uxbridge all of which he had lately seen.

The question of an auxiliary board of visitors was again discussed & it was decided to endeavor to form such a board in the near future. The chairman was requested to write to Mrs Agassiz on the subject & Miss Sohier to consult Miss Katharine Loring with a view to asking her assistance

It was voted to hold no meeting of the Commission in July - owing to the meeting of the Library Association in Portland.

Adjourned E. P. Sohier. Sec'y

August 17 1905

The regular meeting of the Commission was held at the State House.

Present.

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green Mr Corey —

Mr Corey acting as secretary pro tem.

The chairman reported that final installments of books had been sent to the towns of

Warwick Greenwich Egremont.

The question of obtaining detailed statistics of libraries, similar to those obtained in 1901. was considered; and after a free discussion, it was agreed to take no present action but to defer the matter until early in 1906

It was voted to send out circulars asking for general information —

After a discussion of library matters in general the meeting was adjourned —

September 21st 1905

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair Mr Corey
Mr Green. Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to
East Longmeadow (2nd) Gill (1st)
Books had been ordered for
Charlemont. Granville Phillipston.

A letter was read by Mr Corey from Mr John M. Batchellor for the trustees of Hollis ton stating the reasons for abandoning the use of open shelves.

Also a letter from Mr Foss of Somerville mentioning the introduction of turnstyles.

Other letters were read from Monro & New Ashford.

The chairman read a letter from the new town of Plainville stating that the question of a new library would be brought before a Special town meeting in September

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec'y.

October 19th 1905

The commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tilling hast in the chair — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sents to

Gill	(1st)	Holland	(2nd)
Lanesboro	(1st)	Montgomery	"
Charlemont	(2nd)	Phillipston	"
Granby	"	Plainsfield	"
Granville	"	Southwick	"

A number of letters concerning libraries were read by the chairman & Mr Corey - including one from Granville stating that bookcases had been put in the school houses -

The possibility of an auxiliary asso- -ciation of ladies to visit & assist the small libraries was again discussed.

The chairman stated that Mrs Agassiz had attended the recent meeting of the Cape Cod Library Club, & had written that she consided it very successful.

Adjourned — E. P. Sohier Secy.

Nov 16 1905

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Corey Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Royalston (2nd) Gile (2nd)

The chairman had received a letter from the town clerk of the new town of Plainville expressing great regret that no action had been taken at the recent town meeting to establish a library - The article in the warrant had been laid upon the table owing to the many expenses which were unavoidable this year -

The general business of the commission & the possibilities of enlarging its work were discussed

Adjourned

E P. Sohier

Secretary

Dec 21st 1906

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast (in the chair) - Mrs Agassiz
Mr Green Miss Scherr

The chairman reported books had been sent to

Heath (2nd) Plympton 2nd "
Holland 2nd Prescott "
North Reading (2nd ") Tyringham "
Paxton (2nd) Whately "
Pelham "

Matters concerning the Cape were discussed & the advisability of securing representation of the town on boards of trustees which were now without any such representation -

The question of appointing a committee of ladies to aid in the work of the Commission by visiting & encouraging the small libraries was considered & it was decided to hold a small meeting to consider plans at some time to be arranged

by Mrs Agassiz and the chairman:
and to invite several ladies whose
advice would be valuable

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

January 18 1906

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tilling hast in the chair — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to
New Braintree (2nd) — Savoy 1st
Plainfield (2nd)

The annual report was read & approved and it was voted that the chairman be authorized to append the names of the members of the Commission

The chairman stated that an informal conference had been held with a few ladies actively interested in the small libraries the ladies present being Miss Soule of the Cape Cod Library Club. Miss Mary Monson — Miss Katharine P. Loring and Miss Lucy Lowell and that the possibility of forming an auxiliary board of visitors had been discussed.

The ladies present believed such a board could do very useful work.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secy.

1906

The Commission met at the State House Feb 15

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

An act which had been proposed giving further powers to the commission was considered, & it was decided to take no formal action concerning it. The chairman had been informed that there would soon be a hearing upon the bill & it was the opinion of the members of the commission present that useful work could be done if the increased appropriation was granted. 7

The general business of the Commission was discussed & the chairman stated that he had had many applications for advice from the smaller towns

Adjourned

E P. Sohier
Secretary.

March 15 1906

The Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission met at the rooms of the State Library March 15 1906 at 11 o'clock A. M.

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair
Mr Green
Mr Corey acting as secretary -

The chairman reported that seven volumes of the Vital Statistics had been approved by the Committee, viz

Douglas.	Dalton
Edgartown	Norton
Lynn	Wenham

Royalston.

The chairman reported progress of the bill now before the legislature granting a yearly sum of $2000 for the work of the Commission

The Summer library class announced by Simmons College was discussed and its possible connection with the work of the commission was considered.

Adjourned.

April 26 1906

The Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission met at the rooms of the State Library April 26 1906 at 11 o'clock A M.

Present.

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green

Mr Corey acting as secretary pro tem

The chairman reported that two volumes of the Vital Statistics had been approved by the committee viz

Phillipston Beverly.

The chairman reported that the second installments of books had been sent to

Monterey

It was voted that a sum not exceeding $150 be expended in the purchase and distribution of the library map of Massachusetts

The desirability of addressing a circular letter to the libraries of small towns for the purpose of obtaining information as to their condition and needs was considered, and it was voted

that such a circular be prepared and sent out

Adjourned

May 17 1906

The Commission met at the State House -

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Green
Mr Corey — Miss Sohier

The chairman stated that the maps had been purchased, but not sent out.

Books had been sent to Tolland (2nd ").

The circular letter to small towns was read & considered.

Voted To accept the circular and to authorize the chairman to distribute it according to his discretion -

It was the opinion of the commission that it would be wise to study first the needs of a limited number of towns and learn by experience the best methods of aiding the smaller libraries

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier Sec'y.

June 7 1906

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier.

The chairman stated that Mrs Agassiz had hoped to be at the meeting but was unavoidably prevented - She had visited a number of libraries on the Cape - & was considering the advisability of sending one or more librarians from there to the Library Class of Simmons College - under the powers given to the Commission by the new law. The librarian at Brewster she thought might be glad to avail herself of the opportunity -

The question of sending librarians to the class at Simmons college was discussed

Voted That the chairman & Mr Corey be authorized at their discretion to pay the tuition & expenses at the Simmons College library class of librarians in

towns having a valuation not exceeding $600.000,

Mr Green was requested to obtain information concerning the advisability of sending the librarians of the small towns in Worcester County viz Bolton Berlin Dana Paxton & Phillipston New Braintree

Mr Green also offered to ask information as to Ashfield —

It was voted that a committee of advisory visitors should be appointed

It was voted that Mr Tillinghast & Miss Sohier be a committee to confer with Miss Katharine P. Loring & to offer her the chairmanship of the board of advisory visitors & consult with her as to the membership of that body — and that this committee be authorized to appoint such visitors

~~The chairman reported that the Vital Statistics of Turners~~ Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secretary

June 28th 1906–

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast. Mr Corey Miss Sohier

The chairman report that books had been sent to

Dana	final	Phillipston	final
Lakeville	"	Mt Washington	"
Leyden	"	New Braintree	"
Monterey	"	Savoy	"
Otis	"		

The sub committee reported that it had been decided to send Miss Fidelia C. Newton ~~to~~ librarian of Bolton to the Simmons College Library Class–

It was reported that Miss Loring had consented to serve as chairman of the board of advisory visitors – & had suggested Miss Seabury as secretary –

It was voted to invite the following ladies to be members of the board of advisory visitors

Miss Soule of Hyannis

Miss Hooper of the Brookline Library

Miss Mary Monson
Miss Alice Chandler
Miss Lucy Lowell
Miss Jackson North Adams -
Miss Joslin Ayford -
Miss Seabury -

It was voted that the Commission should adjourn to the third Thursday in August.

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Sec 7/11

September 20th 1906

The Free Public Library Commission held its regular monthly meeting at the State Library Sept. 20th 1906 There were present Mr Tilling hast, Mr Greene Mr Corey, Mr Corey acting as secretary pro tem. The chairman reported that trial allotments of books had been sent to the towns of

Goshen	Montgomery
Halifax	Peru.

Copies of the library map of Massachusetts had been sent to about 750 of the larger libraries & literary institutions of the world

The Commission sent three librarians to the Summer School of Simmons College as follows.

Miss Electa Sletson of Ashfield	Cost	74.60
Miss Fidelia C. Newton " Bolton	"	76.26
Mrs Flora V. Danforth " Phillipston		61.00

A report by Miss Chandler of a visit of a committee of the Womans Education Association to libraries in the Southwestern part of the State was read

Adjourned.

D. P. Corey Sec pro tem

November 19th 1906

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

A letter was read from Truro representing its need of books & especially of reference books which it was impossible to purchase from its small appropriation — The situation in Truro was fully discussed & it was Voted That the chairman be authorized to send to Truro an encyclopedia & other books at his discretion

A letter from Rutland was read & Mr Green reported concerning the needs of that town — It appeared that the library had no catalogue — & it was believed that the books were less useful for that reason especially to teachers & the schools — Rutland is a richer town than those usually aided by the Commission but its high tax rate & the fact that the State had established both a

home for consumptives & a convict camp there, seemed to entitle the town to special consideration — The possibility of sending a competent person to assist in making a suitable catalogue was discussed. Mr Green was requested to obtain further information especially as to the ability of the librarian & others interested in the library to do the cataloguing work if given instruction by some expert sent by the Commission —

The chairman stated that he had sent out ten circular letters but that the only answer he had received was from Gayhead which represented its great need to be a library building — The town appropriation for several years has remained unexpended because there was no room for more books. The books at present were kept in a closet in the school house —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Sec'y

November 15 1906

The Commission met at the State House.

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green — Mrs Agassiz

Mr Corey — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported books had been sent to New Ashford.

also that he had sent a set of Chambers Encyclopedia to Truro—

The chairman had received a letter from Hawley asking advice as to cataloguing & also as to the purchase of French books as the town had many French Canadians— Mr Green suggested that French books written in Canada might be useful & he was requested to ascertain how much such books are used in Worcester— where there are many French Canadians—

Mr Green reported as to Rutland & was authorized to write that the Commission will send an expert for a few days when the local librarian & others are prepared to do the work

E. L Sohier Sec pro tem

December 20 1906

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green — Mrs Agassiz

Mr Corey — Miss Sohier

The chairman stated that arrangements had been made to send Miss Wood for three weeks to Rutland at $15 a week to instruct the librarian & others there it being understood that the people of Rutland would provide for her board —

Mr Green reported concerning the use of books written by French Canadians —

Mrs Agassiz reported that she had sent letters to 83 towns asking what books of reference their libraries contained — She had received replies from 54. A number of towns had neither an encyclopaedia nor a dictionary

The letters were referred to the chairman with power to act in special cases —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec'y.

January 17 1907

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair Mr Green
Mrs Agassiz Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to Sunderland (1st) & a dictionary & 25 other books to Truro.

Mrs Agassiz read a number of letters from towns in need of dictionaries — & other replies to her letter of enquiry — These letters were referred to the chairman —

A letter from Rutland stated that the library had been closed for two weeks & that volunteer assistance had been secured for the cataloguing.

The annual report was read & approved & it was voted that the chairman be authorized to make such additions as he thought necessary & to append the names of the members of the Commission to the report

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec

February 21 1907

The Commission met at the State House.

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to Brimfield (2nd)

Also that the demand for library cards continued & that 10.000 had recently been printed.

A letter was read from Rowe in answer to the circular letter of the Commission asking assistance in cataloguing its book. After discussion, it was decided that further information was required & the case was referred to the chairman

A letter was read from Bernardston stating that the librarian felt greatly the need of advice in cataloguing the library

It was found that under the will of Mr Cushman an income of $200 existed which could only be used for new books. that there were over 7000 volumes in the library & that the circulation was large.

It was voted that in the opinion of the Commission Bernardston seemed a proper case for assistance from the State provided the town was willing to aid itself in cataloguing its library — & the matter was referred to the chairman with full powers —

The suggestion was made that it might be wise to send the librarian to the Summer School, & thus qualify her to do the cataloguing unaided —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secretary

March 21 1907

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported dictionaries had been sent to.

Pelham — Maspee
Peru. — Montgomery
East Longmeadow.

& that from 40 to 55 volumes had been sent to each of these towns as gifts from the books given to the Commission for distribution

After discussion & further information concerning the librarian at Bernardston it was voted that Mrs Charles A Hills the librarian of Bernardston be offered the opportunity to attend the Summer School —

The chairman reported that 88 circular letters had now been sent to the smaller towns - & that during the month one reply had been received —

The town of Tyringham expressed a

desire for books, but felt that its greatest need was a card catalogue - A case of cards were needed - The valuation of Tyringham is less than $250.000 & the people of the town have made great efforts to help themselves - It was voted that the chairman be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding $50 for the benefit of Tyringham -

A letter was read from Halifax where the library has recently been destroyed by fire - An effort is to be made to reopen the library in temporary quarters, if books can be secured for immediate use. It was voted that the chairman be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding $50 for the benefit of Halifax -

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secretary

April 18 1907

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast	Mr Corey
Mr Green	Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had sent to

Berkley	a dictionary &	58	volumes	as gifts
Hancock	"	66	"	"
Plainfield	"	51	"	"
Richmond	"	58	"	"
Tolland	"			
Westhampton	"	60	"	"

There had been sent to Tyringham a case & cards, as the cataloguing would be done by one of the trustees. 50 volumes had also been sent by the state.

Wendall had been sent books as gifts.

The chairman reported that Plainville had voted to establish a library & that the pupils of the high school had contributed $42—

At the request of Warwick. Bailis Cyclopedia of Horticulture had been lent by the State Library

Mrs Hill the librarian of Bernardston has accepted the offer of the Summer School. Frances S Edwards of West Stockbridge now wishes to accept the offer made last year. It was voted to pay her expenses at the Summer School –

In response to correspondence by Mr Green a desire to attend the School had been expressed by librarians of –

Grafton — Valuation $486.000
Ayford
Westborough –

It was voted to authorize Mr Green to offer to pay the tuition of librarians in the towns if the towns would meet other expenses.

The chairman stated that Miss Chandler had suggested as possible candidate the librarians of

Granby	Val $486.000
Westminster	720.000
Cheshire –	696.000

The chairman was authorized to offer to send these librarians at his discretion

Adjourned E. P. Sohier Sec'y

May 16 1907

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Green Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had sent to

Dana a dictionary & 51 vols. as gifts

Alford " " 61 " " "

After discussion it was voted to pay the expenses of the librarian of Oxford if she is able to attend the summer school —

The chairman reported that Sadie F. Greene librarian at Westminster had accepted the offer to attend the summer school.

The librarian of Cheshire had declined as she could not leave an aged mother

The librarian of Charlemont had declined as she is companion to an old lady over 80 — Also her right hand is disabled —

Mr Green reported that the librarian of Westborough would be glad to accept the offer to pay her tuition if she found herself able to attend the summer school.

No reply had been received from Grafton

The chairman read letter from Chilmark stating that there was great need of a card catalogue & that the librarian was willing to do the work but that the town could not afford to buy the case & cards —

It was voted to authorize the chairman to purchase for Chilmark a cabinet & cards —

The chairman read a letter from Miss Jackson of North Adams expressing her desire to assist Clarksburg & her intention to enlist the interest of a friend at Briggsville the principal village of Clarksburg —

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

June 20th 1907

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had sent to

Florida a dictionary & gifts
Leverett " " "
Leyden " " "
New Marlborough " " "
Monroe " " "

making in all 20 towns which have received Webster's International dictionary. As the price of the dictionaries has been increased he had decided to purchase no more at present.

The advisability of substituting some other dictionary was discussed & the Commission decided it might be well to try the experiment.

The chairman reported that he had sent a case & cards to Chilmark in accordance with the vote at the last meeting.

He had also purchased a case & 4000 cards for Heath a town which the

commission had decided if possible to assest in its efforts to make a cabd catalogue.
A recent letter from the librarian stated that he would endeavor to make the catalogue himself without pay- As he is a civil engineer & hopes to go to the Greenfield Library for advice - the chairman felt that a suitable case & cards would be the best assistance
This decision of the chairman was approved by the commission
The chairman stated that he had been informed that Lynnfield having received a bequest for its library had not made its annual appropriation. He had written to the Selectmen & called their attention to the previous vote of the town by which an annual appropriation was required -
Miss Nellie Te. Smith of Westborough had accepted the offer of tuition at the summer school -
Mrs Clara E. Fuller of Oxford had accepted the offer to pay her expenses at the summer school -

It was voted to adjourn until September –
It was voted to authorize the chairman
to act for the commission in all matters
which require action during the Summer.

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary.

September 26th 1907

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast	Mr Corey
Mr Green	Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had sent to

Boyborough	66 Vols of gifts
Middlefield	70 " " "

also from the State appropriation sent to

Whately	books costing $11.09

Many applications for cards had been received & 10.000 have been printed

The chairman reported that he had sent a case and catalogue cards to

Heath	costing $15.80
Leyden	" 17.80

It was voted to send a copy of the Century dictionary to Alford.

Voted - To authorize the chairman to purchase copies of the Century dictionary for other towns if they are offered at a low price.

It was voted to authorize the chairman to employ a suitable person to prepare the Statistical tables for the report at an expense of $100

An application from Auburn for books was read and considered. The letter was referred to Mr Green

The chairman reported that the librarians who had attended the Summer School had all expressed great satisfaction with the results — The entire expenses of three librarians had been paid by the State

Mrs Charles R Hoels	Bernardston	$72
Miss Sadie E. Greene	Westminister	$68
Mrs Clara E. Fuller	Oxford	$75

Tuition $20 was paid for.

Mrs Nellie E. Smith	Westborough
Miss Lucy W. Biscoe	Grafton

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

October 17th 1907

The commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman presented reports of Advisory visitors which had been sent him by Miss Loring & several were read.

The reports on Leverett by Miss Chandler & Miss Monson showed the need of a good visitor & of higher class books especially in juveniles -

Royalston had been visited by Miss Monson & Miss Chandler. The chairman was authorized to purchase a case & cards as it was believed the librarian would be able to make the card catalogue -

Hawley - Visited by Miss Chandler - Voted to authorize the chairman to purchase cards & a case if it seemed to be expedient -

The chairman reported that Plainville had sent a list of books desired

Mr Green made a report on Auburn & was asked to continue in charge of the investigation of the possibilities there —

It was voted to hold a special meeting on Thursday Oct 24th to further consider the reports of visitors

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

October 24th 1907

A Special meeting of the Commission was held

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green — Mrs Agassiz

Mr Corey — Miss Sohier

Reports from visitors were read & considered

Sterling visited by Miss Chandler —

The needs of this town were referred to the chairman with full powers —

Blackstone Visited by Miss Lowell who had met the teachers — and other persons who could be helpful — The valuation of Blackstone is small in proportion to its population & needs — & after full consideration the commission decided that it was a town which could properly be aided by the State. The great need seemed to be more books for young people than the town could supply

Voted to authorize the chairman in his discretion to expend $50 for juveniles

Maynard Visited by Miss Rodman

It seemed evident that more interest in the library was desirable - and Miss Rodman had been successful in enlisting the cooperation of influential people in the town - Mr Green offered to consult Mr Morgan of Worcester whose wife was a member of the Maynard family -

Bernardston. Visited by Miss Monson & Miss Chandler - The library was very satisfactory and quite a model library for a small town

Berlin Visited by Miss Chandler.

Charlemont Visited by Miss Monson & Miss Chandler Unusually attractive - A card catalogue had been begun, but was unfinished and it seemed unlikely the town would be able to finish it without assistance on account of the expense -

Sturbridge Visited by Miss Josselyn Children make great use of this library Children who have finished their lessons are allowed to leave school early and go to the library before the crowd of children arrive later

Dana Visited by Miss Chandler - The two libraries at Dana & North Dana formerly exchanged books but do not at present. each having a printed list - Advised changing again.

Oxford Visited by Miss Joselyn -

Petersham Visited by Miss Chandler -

Montague Visited by Miss Chandler - Lends books to Riverside in Gill -

Gill Visited by Miss Chander - There are two libraries at Gill & Riverside both in grocery stores - Books were formerly exchanged, but this was considered too much trouble. Needs attention & consideration, & effort to send books to schools.

Barnstable - Mrs Agassiz reported that the librarian had received much benefit from the summer school -

Mrs Agassiz read an account of the Meeting of the Cape Cod Library Club which had been a great success.

November 15. 1907

A Special meeting of the Commission was held

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green — Mrs Agassiz

Mr Corey — Miss Sohier —

Also by invitation Miss Loring Chairman of the Advisory visitors —

The chairman reported that he had written to Miss Chandler offering to send a case of cards to Sterling —

Blackstone Miss Lowell had sent a list of juveniles to Blackstone to learn which were already in the library

Maynard. Mr Green had seen Mr Morgan who had written to a nephew in the town whose letter was read —

Wenham Miss Loring reported that Mrs Cole of the Wenham Improvement Society had been to her for advice & had visited with her the Beverly library to study the work there. A few days assistance of an expert sent by

the state would probably enable Wenham to complete its catalogue itself –

Ashby Visited by Miss Rodman. Condition very satisfactory –

Tyngsboro Visited by Miss Morison – No branches. Considering sending books to an outlying school. Librarian wishes to attend summer school –

Cape Mrs Agassiz reported that Miss Soule had visited a number of libraries & would send formal reports. Mrs Agassiz stated that a number of the small towns on the Cape were in great need of books for children which they were too poor to purchase –

Voted To authorize the chairman to purchase juveniles for the Cape towns at an expense of $100 – the towns specially suggested being Truro – Orleans Brewster & Sandwich –

Voted To authorize the chairman to have the Library Map brought up to date.

Voted To authorize the chairman to purchase additional books of reference & books for children for distribution in the poorer towns where they are greatly needed —

Miss Loring stated that three librarians had consented to give instruction to librarians in the smaller towns

Miss Forest of Milton 1 pupil
Miss Hooper " Brookline 1 pupil
Mr Wilson Clarke University Worcester served.

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary.

November 21 1907

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the chair

Mr Green — Mrs Agassiz

Mr Corey — Miss Sohier —

The chairman reported books had been sent to Plainville —

Also that he had sent a case of cards to Sterling —

Reports of visitors were read —

Bolton Visited by Miss Chandler — One of the most attractive libraries in the State — Librarian has received advice from Lancaster —

Boxboro Visited by Miss R. A. Woods — The library is now in a private house and would be more useful in the town hall. The present librarian is opposed to the change.

Carlisle Visited by Mrs Woods — Librarian would like assistance in cataloguing the library

Dunstable Visited by Miss Morison — The

new town hall will include the library
The librarian would like to attend the
Summer school —

Hubbardston Visited by Mrs Hetty S. Cunningham
The librarian would like advice in the se-
lection of books — & believes pictures would be
useful — Miss Loring will send list of books

New Salem Visited by Miss Chandler. Books
well selected. Books are sent to four
villages — Miss Chandler will try to
send a traveling library

Phillipston. Visited by Miss Monson & Miss
Chandler — The librarian has received
much aid from her attendance at the
Summer School — The library is over
crowded —

Southbridge Visited by Miss Joselyn —
French books are supplied — The town
has many Poles but as yet they do not
use the library much — A new library
is greatly needed —

Tyngsboro Visited by Miss Monson
Librarian wishes to attend Summer School.

Boylston Visited by Miss Chandler. Books well chosen - A card catalogue is being made -

Webster Visited by Miss Josselyn - The Polish children take great interest in the library - This is largely due to the cooperation of the nuns whose aid was secured by the librarian - These children show great interest in books on American history - An attempt to open on Sunday with volunteer aid proved unsuccessful -

Mrs Agassiz reported that she had received answers from the Cape towns expressing great desire for childrens books -

Truro The librarian stated that the children were the chief patrons of the library -

Provincetown Visited by Miss Soule - The library coned be made much more useful - than it is -

Woodshole A small library in charge of a volunteer, Woned be much more useful if it coned be made a branch

of the Falmouth library

South Yarmouth Visited by Miss Soule –

Falmouth Visited by Miss Soule –

Brewster Visited by Miss Soule – The children make great use of the library –

Auburn Mr Green reported that slow progress only was possible – He hoped that arrangements could be made to send books to the village of Stoneville

Wenham. The chairman had arranged to send Miss Woods for a few days –

Leyden Miss Sohier reported that she had visited Leyden & that the card catalogue was evidently being prepared – but in the absence of the librarian she could not learn details –

Greenfield

Miss Sohier had visited Greenfield on Sunday afternoon – The reading room was well filled. The system of letting books at one cent a day had proved very satisfactory

E P. Sohier Sec'y

December 19th
1907

The Commission met at the State House -
Present.

Mr Green Mr Corey Miss Sohier.

In the absence of the chairman owing to illness, Mr Green presided. as chairman pro tem.

Mr Green reported progress in Auburn The Superintendent of schools had visited him since the last meeting and had promised to try to secure arrangements for books at Stoneville

Sterling - A letter was read from the secretary expressing much gratitude for the case & cards -

Wenham A letter from Miss Woods was read - She had spent three days at Wenham & had given much aid & advice - If she could go again occa-sionally on Saturdays, she believed She could be very helpful -

At the suggestion of Miss Chandler as visitor a case & cards had been offered

Hawley – After consultation with the trustees the offer was declined for the present

Royalston – Miss Chandler had also advised offering a case of cards to Royalston – The librarian after consulting the trustees declined the offer explaining that books were used so extensively by people who did not come to the library that a card catalogue would not be so useful as to authorize the undertaking – She wished that the offer had been of a charging case or borrowers cards which are much needed –

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary –

1908

The Commission met at the State House Jan 16

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier —

The application of Wilbraham for aid was received —

The chairman read the annual report of the Commission which was considered & approved

Voted That the chairman be authorized to make such additions as he thinks necessary and to append the names of the Commission to the report

Adjourned

E. P Sohier
Secretary

February 20th 1908

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey

Mr Green — Miss Sohier

Mr Green reported that no progress had been made at Auburn, but that he believed some satisfactory arrangement would be made at some future time.

An application from Manchaug in Sutton for books for a Sunday School library was informally mentioned by Mr Green — There seemed need of French books & the possibility of supplying them through the Manchaug branch of the town library was considered & the matter was referred to Mr Green —

It was voted to authorize the chairman to purchase & distribute to libraries the lists of books printed by the Womans Education Association.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secretary.

1908 March 19

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported he had sent 25 juveniles to
Sandwich — Truro
Orleans.

Miss Woods had been for two days at Wenham.

It was voted to offer to send to the Summer School
Mrs Swallow librarian at Dunstable
Miss Perham " " Tyngsboro
" " North Dana

& the chairman was requested to make the offer

Affairs at Bernardson were discussed.
and the Cushman will was read.

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

1908 April

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast Mr Corey
Mr Green Miss Sohier

The chairman report that the offer of the Commission of expesses at the Summer School had been accepted by Miss Perham librarian of Syngstorr

Mr Green reported progress as to Sutton Hon James W. Stockwell had expressed his belief that French books would be very useful if sectarian books were excluded.

It was suggested that Miss Josslin would be a valuable visitor for Manchang.

The chairman reported that he had arranged to send Miss Woods to Sudbury for a few days to give advice & assistance in the library

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec'y.

1908 May 21

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast

Mr Green Mrs Agassiz

Mr Corey Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that the offer of the Summer School had been accepted by

Mrs Swallow librarian of Dunstable

Miss Perham " " Tyngsboro –

The librarian of North Dana declined –

Tuition had been offered & accepted by

Miss Rice librarian of Sudbury –

An offer had been made to send the librarian of West Boylston –

Mrs Agassiz was requested to ascertain the condition & needs of the library at Brewster – a free library to which the town appropriates money & which seems to be doing good work and can afford very little for books.

Mrs Agassiz undertook to obtain information as to other libraries on

the Cape.

The question of material for the report was referred to the chairman

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

June 18 1908

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to

Leyden
New Ashford.
Granby — gifts

Mrs Agassiz had visited Brewster where books were needed & was consulting with Miss Soule about other towns

Miss Waite of West Boylston c accept the offer of her expenses at the Summer School.

It was voted to omit the monthly meetings of the Commission in July & August and to authorize the chairman to act for the Commission

E P. Sohier Secretary

Sept 24 1908

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast

Mr Green	Mrs Agassiz
Mr Corey	Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had sent to

Wilbraham	New Books value $25
Boxborough	Chambers Encyclopadia
East Longmeadow	Catalogue Case & cards.
Otis	" " " "
Granby	" " " "
Montague (Millers Falls.	" "
Oakham	33 New books -
Greenwich	44 books as gifts

Miss Wood had been sent to help in cataloguing the library at Provincetown & had worked there for a month with very satisfactory results -

Miss Wood had also been for several days at Sudbury -

Reports were received from Auburn & it was voted that the arrangements

there are now satisfactory to the Commission & the chairman was authorized to send them such books as he considered expedient —

Several reports as to Cape towns were read by Mrs Agassiz —

At the request of the visitor the chairman was authorized to send a catalogue case to

Dunstable —

The chairman stated that arrangements could be made to send an expert from the Springfield library to instruct librarians in some of the small towns in the best ways of mending books It was voted to authorize the chairman to make all necessary arrangements —

At the request of the visitor it was voted to authorize the chairman to provide a rack for books for

South Deerfield —

Many reports from visitors were read —

It was voted that the chairman

be authorized to offer the librarian at Ludlow an opportunity to attend the summer school —

The chairman stated that he had offered the librarian at Hunting don a chance to attend the Summer School —

The chair man reported that the following librarians had attended the summer school during 1908

Miss Lizzie A Swallow	Dunstable
Miss Annie M. Waite	West Boylston
Miss E. L. Perham	Tyngsborough
Mrs Rice (tuition only)	Sudbury —

Letters were read from several of these librarians showing high appreciation of the instruction received.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

October 15- 1908

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast	Mr Corey
Mr Green	Miss Sohier

The chair man reported that he had sent to

Auburn	Childrens books 47.73.
	Other " 58.94
Bellingham	Century dictionary
Dunstable	Case of Cards
Monterey	35 Vols (gifts)

Reports were read from visitors to a number of towns

The report from Richmond suggested the possible advantage of sending Italian books. juvenile books were also needed.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier

Secretary

November 19 1908

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that he had sent to Halifax where the library had been burned Chambers Encyclopedia, Websters dictionary & books costing $38.98

Huntingdon books costing 73.48
Orleans Websters dictionary & books costing $38.98
Truro " " 41.43
Hampden — by request of visitor a desk & Rolfe's Shakespeare &.
Deerfield by request of visitor bookrack ($5.20)
Colerain for assistance in cataloguing the library. 31.80

The experiment of sending an expert from the Springfield library to instruct librarians in the smaller towns in the care & mending of books had proved very satisfactory. Miss Prince had visited 7 libraries & had mended in each a number of books & the

librarians had everywhere seemed anxious to learn all that she could teach. The expense to the State had been $42.39

A number of reports from visitors were read.

Wellfleet wishes assistance in cataloguing & the visitor asks for cards & case —

The Annual report was discussed.

Adjourned

E P Sohier

Sec'y

December 17 1908

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that by request of Mr Childs books had been sent to

Holland $34.25

also to

Goshen 40 books (gifts)
Halifax 50 " "
West Harwich (Chase Library) Rubber stamp ($1.50)

A strong desire had been expressed for this stamp as the greatest immediate need & it was gratified at an expense of $1.50)

The annual report was considered & the details were referred to the chairman with full powers

Adjourned
E P Sohier Sec'y

1909

January 21st 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast in the Chair

Mr Green Miss Sohier.

The chairman stated that he had purchased books for Boxborough from the funds of that library -

The conditions in different towns were discussed -

In Richmond books for young people were especially needed & a letter was read from Mr Clement of the board of trustees -

A report from the visitor of Buckland was considered - The library building there is connected with the church although the library is open to all inhabitants of the village. No assistance is given by the town to the village - $200 is paid to the library at Shelburne Falls by the town. The chairman was asked to write to Mr Ward of the trustees

Adjourned

E P Sohier Sec'y

February 18th 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The situation in Gill was discussed - The chairman had seen Rev E.P. Teddy who would endeavor to improve conditions but feared little could be done at present owing to great sympathy with the present librarian which made the towns people unwilling to make a change -

A letter was read from Miss Soule about Eastham & it was voted to send Miss Woods for two week to give instruction & assist in cataloguing

A letter was read from Miss Loring about Sterling. It was voted to send Miss Woods for a few days to instruct in cataloguing

The chairman reported that he had sent

Richmond R — 15 Vols juveniles

The chairman stated that he had learned from Mrs Loring that

Miss Poland the Superintendant of schools offers to distribute books in the towns in her district. Long meadow East Long meadow Wilbraham and Hampden - He had suggested to Miss Loring that a travelling library might be sent by the Woman's Education Association, but felt that such an offer should certainly be accepted - y some provision be made to utilize the opportunity

Conditions in Worthington were discussed

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier
Secretary

March 18 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Tillinghast — Mr Corey

Mr Green — Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that after consultation with Miss Loring. Miss Poland had made arrangements with the libraries of the four towns which she visits as Superintendent of Schools, by which any books sent to these libraries by the commission should be first used in the outlying districts. Miss Poland will personally attend to their care & distribution & will return them to the library from which they are received. Miss Poland sent lists of books adapted to the use of the four towns & the chairman had purchased & sent to the libraries in these towns as requested

East Wilbraham	26 Vols costing	$25.78
Glenvale (Wilbraham)	24 " "	23.05
East Longmeadow	33 " "	27

Hampden 25 Vol costing $25.12

Miss Loring intends also to secure gifts from other sources & the experiment may lead to a solution of the difficulty of providing for the occupants of remote farmhouses in these & in other towns —

There had also been sent to

Russell 11 Vols of juveniles

The chairman had by request purchased books for Dunstable from the towns funds.

Letters had been received from Eastham & Sterling as to assistance in cataloguing

A letter from Mr Davis of West Tisbury was read asking if the Commission could aid that "remote" town by sending a catalogue case & cards. The request was referred to the chairman with full powers to send in his discretion —

The chairman was authorized to send reference & other books to Middlefield

The chairman was requested to send a visitor to Cummington through Miss Loring —

E. P. Sohier Sec'y.

April 16 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Green in the chair

Mr Corey Miss Sohier

Owing to illness Mr Tillinghast was absent but he sent a statement regarding his work

In accordance with the vote of the Commission he had written to Miss Peck of Sterling offering the assistance of Miss Woods for two weeks to assist in cataloguing—

He had also offered Miss Knowles the services of Miss Woods for two weeks to assist at Eastham—

A case of 8000 cards had been sent to West Tisbury

Express on a large number of books from the Brookline library for use in small towns thro Miss Poland had been paid—

A number of letters from Miss Poland to Miss Loring & to Mr Tillinghast were read showing the great appreciation of

the books sent to the small towns.

A letter from Wilbraham asking of the State could aid in purchasing a new edition of the International Encyclopedia was read & referred to Mr Green – In the opinion of the commission the expense of the exchange of editions was too great for the commission to undertake especially as it had so recently aided Wilbraham in other ways –

A letter to Miss Sohier from Oak Bluffs was read asking if any books could be secured for that library –

The needs of Worthington were again discussed & referred to Mr Green to report upon later –

Adjourned

E V Sohier Secretary

May 3rd 1909

The Commission held a special meeting at the State House in consequence of the death of its chairman Mr Tillinghast

Present

Mr Green Mr Corey Miss Sohier

Arrangements for the immediate work of the Commission were made informally

It was voted that resolutions expressing the loss which the Commission & the State have sustained should be prepared & that the next meeting should be held after the return of Mrs Agassiz from California which would probably be in a week or two —

Voted That Mr Green be placed on the Committee on Vital Statistics* Adjourned

E P Sohier

* See Vote July 17. 1902 —

May 26th 1909—

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Corey — Mrs Agassiz
Mr Green — Miss Sohier—

The records of the last meeting were read & after an explanation from Mr Corey concerning the expressage of books from the Brookline library it was voted to amend the records so that they would read that the Commission had assumed the expense of transportation of these gifts to the little towns visited by Miss Poland—

A letter was read from Miss Woods concerning her engagement to assist at Sterling & Eastham in accordance with arrangements made by Mr Tillinghast The letter was referred to Mr Corey—

Mr Green reported that he had written to Wiltraham as requested

Mr Green also reported that he had written to Worthington concerning the needs of that library but had received no reply

He suggested that a volunteer visitor should be requested to visit Worthington if possible

In accordance with a request through Miss Soule & Miss Loring it was voted to pay the tuition of the librarian of Bourne at the Summer School — The matter was referred to Mrs Agassiz —

The proposal to pay the tuition of the librarian at Ludlow was referred to Miss Scheer to obtain further information through Miss Loring

A letter from the librarian of Oak Bluffs asking if books could be sent to and the library there was considered — The matter was referred to Mrs Agassiz —

It was voted to send 500 cards to Blandford —

Mrs Agassiz offered the assistance of her secretary to aid in the distribution of books sent as gifts to the towns & in other ways —

It was voted to hold a special meeting of the board on June 2nd & to invite Miss Loring to be present & report in person

The following resolutions upon the loss which the Commission and the Commonwealth have sustained in the death of Mr Tillinghast were read by Mr Corey—

Resolved—That the surviving members of the Commission do hereby place upon record our deep personal sorrow for the departure of a beloved and trusted associate and our sense of the loss which the service of the Commonwealth, especially in connection with its free public libraries affairs, has sustained by the death of Caleb Benjamin Tillinghast.

Resolved That a close acquaintance, not only as ~~con~~ associates in an official capacity but also as individuals in the friendly relations of life has revealed to us the many and varied qualities of mind and heart which found their outward manifestations in his conversation, his actions, and in an uncompromising devotion in the performance of those things which to him were duties not

to be overlooked or met in a perfunctory way —

Resolved That his long and successful service in the library of the Commonwealth gave him a fitness for the chairmanship of this Commission which enabled him to direct its affairs with judgment and discretion and with such beneficial results as cannot be questioned by any who are familiar with the progress and present condition of the libraries of Massachusetts. His influence has been helpful not only by his official acts, but, perhaps equally, by his individual efforts to create and sustain a healthy library spirit in all parts of the Common — wealth; and the smaller libraries of the State owe to his memory a debt which may not be forgotten for the inception and successful administration of measures which have given them life and strength

Voted That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Mr Tillinghast

Elisabeth P. Sohier Secretary

June 2nd A. 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Corey — Mrs Agassiz
Mr Green — Miss Sohier

Also by invitation Mr Belden & Miss Loring

Miss Loring reported upon the condition & needs of a number of towns — The librarian at Ludlow was unable to attend the summer school — also several others who had hoped to do so including the librarians of North Wilbraham & South Hadley Falls —

As requested Miss Loring had investigated the condition of the library at Worthington. The library is not a town library & Miss Chandler reports that the ladies in charge do not wish either advice or assistance of any kind — They are quite satisfied with the results of their own efforts & have even refused a travelling library which has been offered — In 1907 a travelling library was sent to West Worthington but is no longer desired.

Miss Loring promised to obtain information

as to Cummington –

Huntingdon wishes assistance in preparing a catalogue It was decided to send Miss Woods if dates coued be arranged –

It was voted to pay the tuition of the librarian of Bourne –

& arrangements were referred to Mrs Agassiz –

Mrs Agassiz stated that she had arranged at her own expense to have lists made of the books which are on hand as gifts from private individuals & woued like to send them to a number of towns on the Cape beside Oak Bluffs & allow them to select those they especially desired –

West Harwich. South Yarmouth. West Yarmouth Hyannis Centerville Cotuit West Barnstable & Oak Bluffs were among the libraries where they would be useful –

Mrs Agassiz was given full powers to thus assist the Cape libraries & to use her discretion as to arrangements there.

Mr Corey reported he had instructed Miss Woods to carry out the arrangements made by Mr Tillinghast as to catalogueing at Sterling

& Eastham. He had sent cards to Blandford.
A dictionary of some sort had been promised to
Middlefield –
The correspondence was referred to Mr Corey
with power to act.
It was voted to hold the next meeting on
June 15th at 10.30

Adjourned
E P. Sohier
Secretary

June 15 1909

The Commission met at the State House -

Present

Mr Corey in the chair Mr Green

Mrs Agassiz Mr Belden Miss Sohier -

Mr Corey reported that he had sent to

Middlefield Webster's dictionary 8.50

A letter from President Treadway of the Senate was read concerning New Marlborough where a part of the library had been burned. & where new books were greatly needed -

It was voted to send some books to New Marlborough & the matter was referred to Mr Corey with full powers -

Mrs Agassiz reported that the librarians of Bourne & Sandwich had accepted the offer of tuition at Simmons College -

With the assistance of Mr Sears she had sent

South Yarmouth	30 vols. (gifts)
West "	30 " "
West Harwich	40 " "
Hyannis	30 " "
Colrut	25 " "

Oak Bluffs 60 vols gifts –
An application had also been made for a travelling library for Oaks Bluffs –
She had arranged with Miss Soule to visit Westport in the autumn –
It was voted that Mrs Agassiz in consultation with Miss Loring be authorized to distribute books given to the Commission for the poorer towns
Miss Sohier stated that she had had several conferences with Miss Loring – who has now 23 visitors & intends to secure several others.
Miss Loring found that owing to the many duties connected with summer visitors the librarians in the towns in Hampden & other Western Counties were unable to leave home at the time of the Summer School – She found that some of them would be glad of instruction & believed it could be given at a less busy season – by a competent person who could spend a few weeks in the localities where such aid was needed – & who could combine a group of towns.

It was voted that Miss Loring be requested to arrange for such local instruction in Western Mass. & that the Commission would pay the expenses of a competent person to give the aid required —

Voted That Mr Corey be authorized to ~~buy to~~ engage Mr Sears to collect & arrange statistics for the annual report with full powers —

It was voted that the list of librarians be omitted this year — and that a notice should be inserted in the report that the names of librarians & trustees could be found in the Massachusetts Year book —

Voted that the regular monthly meetings in July & August should be omitted & that special meetings should be called by the chairman when necessary —

Voted. That Mr Corey as chairman & Mr Belden be authorized to act for the Commission in matters which require attention during the summer.

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Sec'y

September 21 1909

The Commission met at the State House -

Present

Mr Corey in the chair — Mrs Agassiz
Mr Green — Miss Sohier -

The chairman reported that the tuition at the summer school had been paid for

Mrs Nickerson — Bourne
Miss Rogers — Sandwich

Miss Woods had been sent to assist Huntingdon in cataloguing & in all others ways -

100 Library cards had been sent to Russell

A letter was read from Miss Loring about Blackstone

The special needs of that town had been several times brought to the attention of the Commission - & the fact that although a large town with a higher valuation than those the Commission usually aids, it was in reality a poor town per capita where it was very difficult to supply desirable

books for the younger readers — Miss Amy Lowell had visited the town & had succeeded in interesting the people there. At the request of Mr Tillinghast she had prepared a list of books which would be useful & acceptable there and offers to pay herself nearly half of the sum required for their purchase —

Voted to pay $50 for books for Blackstone & the details were referred to the Chairman & Mr Belden with full powers —

Mrs Agassiz reported that lists of books which coned be sent by the Commission as gifts from various persons to the small libraries had been sent to a number of towns & the books selected by each had been sent as far as possible

The special needs of New Marlborough were considered & it was voted to send

New Marlborough

books to an amount not exceeding $100.

Mrs Agassiz was asked to send a list of books to that town — from which selections could be made —

An offer was made by Mrs Agassiz to pay for the services of an assistant to the Commission for six months and the offer was most grate fully accepted—

Voted That the chairman be authorized to engage the services of Miss Nina Browne to assist the commission for six months

It was voted to authorize Mrs Agassiz and Miss Sohier to select & purchase books to be sent to the following towns

Otis	Russell	Alford—
Monterey	Montgomery	Hawley
Middlefield	New Ashford.	
Cummington	Wendell	

It was voted that Mr Wellman be invited to meet the Commission informally at an early date to be decided by Mr Corey & Mr Belden & that Miss Lonng be invited to be present.

Voted to hold a Special meeting on Wednesday Sept 29th

Adjourned

E. P. Sohier Secretary

1909

September 29th 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Corey in the chair Mrs Agassiz

Mr Belden Mr Green Miss Sohier

Mrs Agassiz reported that with the assistance of Miss Tarbell she had sent lists of books suited to the towns for which purchases were authorized at the last meeting & had asked each to indicate which they most desired - & also to inform her as to any special needs -

The chairman of the trustees at Otis expressed a desire for a good edition of Shakespeare - as the town owned only a cheap one volume edition & it will be sent.

A letter was read asking whether the Commission would subscribe for copies of an index to the A L A. book list -

Voted To subscribe for 50 copies of the index to the A L A book lists & the matter was referred to Mr Belden -

Reports from visitors were read.

Miss Chandler as visitor to Berlin suggests for the Summer School next year
Miss Alice E. Babcock Berlin
Miss Joslin reported that the new branch at Stoneville which had been established chiefly through the efforts of the Commission was working most successfully—

Mrs Agassiz stated that Miss Sarbell hoped to be able to arrange to give a talk on library usefulness, needs & problems before the Village Improvement Society in East Longmeadow & offered to pay the expenses— Such an address would be useful later at such institutes as might be held in other small towns.

E. P. Sohier
Secretary

October 8th 1909–

A Special meeting was held at the State House

Present

Mr Corey Mr Green Mr Belden
Mrs Agassiz Miss Sohier
also by invitation Mr Wellman & Miss Loring–

An informal presentation of the needs of libraries in Western Massachusetts was made by Mr Wellman – who gave much valuable information concerning towns in his neighborhood & the opportunities to aid them –

An informal discussion of past work & future possibilities followed.

The chairman was authorized to pay to the Library Committee of the Woman's Education Association $42.49 – for book lists sent to libraries from Nov 1908 to April 1909–

Mrs Agassiz reported that she had arranged for two institutes on Cape Cod – at Hyannis & Brewster.

Adjourned E. P. Sohier
Secretary.

October 15 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Corey Mr Green Mr Belden
Mrs Agassiz Miss Sohier

Mrs Agassiz reported that gifts had been sent to a number of towns –

Letters from Eastham were read asking the Commission to complete the catalogue of the library there Mr Corey was requested to write to Eastham that Miss Woods could only undertake to instruct the librarian & to start the work in such a way that it could be completed by the town & it was Voted That Miss Woods be directed to close her work at Eastham on Oct. 20th –

Mrs Agassiz reported upon a number of towns on the Cape – Mashpee was endeavoring to help the School children & books for their use were needed also a biographical dictionary –

It was voted to send a biographical dictionary & books for young people –

to Mashpee

In both West Tisbury & Chilmark special need existed & it was voted to send books for young people to both towns & the selection was referred to Mr Belden with power to add books for older readers at his discretion –

After discussion of the reports from other towns it was voted to send books to Ashby Egremont & Prescott – and that the books sent should be chiefly for young people –

A report from Miss Tarbell was read concerning New Marlboro & other towns –

Voted To refer the answer to any communication from the Western Mass Library Club to Mr Corey & Mr Belden

Adjourned
E. P. Sohier
Secretary

October 21st 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Corey in the chair Mr Green Mrs Belden
Miss Agassiz Miss Sohier

Mr Corey reported that he had written to Eastham as requested that the Commission could only send Miss Woods as an instructor and had received a letter from Miss Woods stating that the trustees of the Eastham library had asked her to remain at the expense of the library if the Commission could spare her –

Voted That Miss Woods may remain in Eastham to complete the catalogue there unless special need for her services arises –

A report from Miss Loring who had visited Littleton by request was read. The library seemed in unusually satisfactory condition, but she had made several suggestions which might prove useful –

Other reports were read including a number from Miss Soule on the libraries

on the Cape - She sent a list of books which she had selected for Mashpee including the biographical dictionary asked for - She had interested the authorities there & the books to be sent by the State were especially to help the school children -

Mrs Agassiz stated that every library on the Cape had now been visited by Miss Soule in addition to other visits during the year by herself and her assistants - and that she would arrange with Miss Soule to visit during the winter all the libraries of the island towns -

A letter from Mr Sears was read calling attention to the efforts which were being made in Westport and suggesting that the Commission might be willing to assist. Mrs Agassiz promised to send Miss Soule to Westport & ask her to report on conditions there.

Voted to send books for young people to

Leverett Carlisle Dana

Halifax Chesterfield

E P. Sohier
Secretary

November 11th 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Belden. Mr Corey Mr Wellman Miss Sohier.

Mr Belden having been designated by the governor as chairman of the board presided.

Mr Wellman having been appointed a member of the Commission in the place of Mr Green was present for the first time.

Mr Corey reported that in accordance with previous votes books had been send to 13 towns

Ashby	Cummington	Middlefield	Otis
Alford	Hawley	Montgomery	
Leverett	Prescott	Monterey	
Russell	Wendell	Mashpee	

Middlefield & Mashpee had each by request received a biographical dictionary & Otis a set of Shakespeare - the other books were chiefly juveniles

A report from Miss Soule on Westport was read. Westport is a large town with scattered hamlets & a number of libraries & branches. The town library has only 1834 Vols. The library sustained by Dr E. W. Burt with 4 or 5 branches contains about 2500 vols & seems in every way a model library -

The town gives Dr Burt the use of an old school building but aids in no other way – The Westport Point Library was established by Prof. & Mrs Charles C. Hall & contains about 700 vols including many juveniles. A fee is charged outsiders The town library is considering plans for the classification of its books & asks and & advice –

After full discussion it was the opinion of the Commission that the libraries sustained by Dr Burt were doing valuable work & should be encouraged –

It was voted to ask the Women's Education association to send a travelling library and to send some of the gift books which the Commission has received for distribution – It was also voted to ask Miss Soule whether it would be possible for her to go herself to Westport & instruct the librarian for a few days at the expense of the Commission – & if this was impossible to send either Miss Wodds or Miss Brown –

Mr Belden read a letter from Miss Tarbell concerning New Marlborough –

The towns still entitled to and under the Act of 1900 were considered –

A letter was read from W. H. Hemenway of

Shutesbury - which stated that the Spear Memorial Library was endeavoring to aid the schools & to send books to the "remote Sections" - Mr Tillinghast had given them assurance that they would receive a gift of books from the State & they were now ready to receive them

Voted That the $100 authorized by the act of 1900 be given to Shutesbury in two installments

Voted to send to Gay Head. the Second instalment of books under the act of 1900 -

The annual report & plans for the future work of the Commission were discussed.

It was voted That the chairman & Secretary to expend during November the available balance for the purchase of books for public libraries

E P. Sohier
Secretary

December 2nd 1909

The Commission met at the State House.

Present

Mr Belden. Mr Corey Mr Wellman Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that Mr George H. Bartlett had added the new buildings to the library map at an expense of $36 & that it was now on exhibition.

Mr Corey reported that in accordance with previous votes he had engaged Mr Sears to prepare the statistics & other material for the report and that he was to receive $200—

Miss Sohier reported that Miss Soule had been able to go to Westport for four days with very satisfactory results & that the entire expense was $10—

Information was received from various sources that the library at Wellfleet which was established in 1893 with the assistance of the State had been completely destroyed by fire and that the trustees intended to at once engage a room & endeavor to supply the immediate needs of the people— Miss Soule had already communicated by telephone with the trustees & had promised to visit this week & assist in any way she could.

Voted That whenever satisfactory progress had been made in the reestablishment of the library, the commission will give $100 in books
The matter was referred to the chairman Mrs Agassiz with full powers -

Voted That Mr Belden be appointed on the committee to approve the publications on Vital Statistics in the place of Mr Green -

The annual report was considered -

December 15th 1909

The Commission met at the State House

Present

Mr Belden Mr Wellman Miss Sohier

The chairman reported that books had been sent to-

Gay Head under the Act of 1900 2nd "

Shutesbury " " " " " 1st "

also to the following towns

Carlisle	Dana	New Marlboro
Chilmark	Egremont	Whately
Chesterfield	Halifax	West Tisbury

At the request of Mrs Ellen Shaw Barlow visitor for West Stockbridge. it was voted to offer to send a cataloguer for two weeks to instruct the librarian & assist in completing the catalogue of the library provided satisfactory arrangements could be made- by which her board should be provided by the town and adequate assistance given her.

A report was received from Miss Soule as to Wellfleet- About 150 books had been saved from the fire having been in circulation, & the trustees were making every

effort to re establish the library - The trustees would welcome advice and assistance in starting the library and it was voted to engage Miss Soule at an expense of $15 to instruct the librarian in library matters and to aid the trustees in the selection of books -

The annual report was considered in detail and the chairman was requested to prepare for the next meeting the remaining portions of the report -

The recommendations for legislative action were approved -